

DESCRIPTION AMENDMENTS

Rewrite the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 15, to read as follows:

From the ~~international patent application WO 99/11841~~ U.S. Patent 6,299,756, there is known a separating element for separating the bottom part of an electrolytic tank from the rest of the tank space in connection with the removal of the solids settled on the tank bottom. In said publication, in the electrolytic tank there are arranged support and control members that form the trajectory of the separating element, so that the separating element can be placed in the electrolytic tank and removed therefrom through a space provided in between at least one end wall and the electrode placed nearest to said end wall. In the arrangement according to said publication, the separating element is provided with nozzles attached thereto, and through said nozzles, liquid or gas is conducted to the bottom part of the electrolytic tank in order to help remove the solids. The solids and liquid are removed for instance through a discharge aperture provided in the electrolytic tank bottom. However, the solids may contain particles that are coarser than the rest of the material and are not discharged in the manner described above. Owing to their larger size, they also may cause blockages in the outlet channels. Typically the particles with a larger grain size are separated from the finer slurry after the tank cleaning step.

Rewrite the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 30, to read as follows:

Another preferred embodiment of the invention is characterized in that the arrangement comprises means for directing a jet of some fluid or intermediate agent to the solids in the collecting direction prior to the collector element. By means of intermediate agent jets, the detaching of the solids from off the tank bottom can be boosted, and their transfer to the collector element as well as the separation of solids by the sieve element and the passage of the finer particles through the sieve can be intensified.

Rewrite the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 31, to read as follows:

The arrangement for treating the solids settled on the electrolytic tank bottom comprises a collector element 11, which is movable essentially along the bottom 5 of the electrolytic tank 1 or in the vicinity thereof, said collector element 11 comprising filter means for separating coarse particles from the rest of the solids. Said collector element 11 is typically formed to be for instance ladle-like in shape, so that in the collecting position, the front edge 11a of the collector element is arranged against the tank bottom 5, in which case, when moving the collector element, the solids 6 settled on the tank bottom are transferred to the collector element, onto the means provided therein for separating coarse particles from the rest of the solids. In a typical example, the size of the coarse particles is of the order 2-60 mm.

Rewrite the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 31, to read as follows:

In a preferred embodiment according to the invention, in connection with the collector element 11, there is arranged a lid element 15, so that the collector element 11 and/or the lid element 15 are movable at least with respect to each other. According to a preferred embodiment, the collector element 11 is arranged turnably in a separating wall or member 10 that is coupled to a mechanism (not shown) for advancing and retracting the separating wall. Thus the separating wall serves as a drive apparatus for the collector element ~~drive apparatus 10~~. The collector element is arranged to turn from the collecting position to the top position 11' (illustrated by dotted lines in figure 3), in which top position the lid element 15 prevents the coarse particles that are left in the collector element 11 from flowing out of the collector element for instance when the collector element is being removed from the tank 1. In the embodiment of figure 3, the lid element 15 is arranged in the separating wall 10, ~~serving as the drive apparatus,~~ movably at the edge thereof. Between the lid element 15 and the collector element 11, there is arranged transmission, for example wire transmission. The lid element 15 is installed in the separating wall 10, at the front edge and movably in the motional direction thereof, so that when the lid element 15

touches the (end) wall of the tank, the lid element 15 is stopped, while the fastening point of the collector element 11 still proceeds somewhat towards the wall. Now the wire transmission turns the collector element from the collecting position to the top position 11', where the collector element is advantageously locked. Thereafter the collector element 11 can be removed from the tank 1, for example by moving it by the drive apparatus 10 to the direction opposite to the collecting direction.

Rewrite the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 22, to read as follows:

The collector element 11 is attached, by intermediation of a fastening element 16, to the drive apparatus 10. In the fastening element, there is provided a transversal axis element 17, around which the collector element is turnably arranged. The lid element 15 is installed, by intermediation of at least one support member 18, so that it is movable back and forth in the collecting direction. In the embodiment according to figure 3, the motion of the lid element 15 is transmitted transformed by transmission means 19, 20, particularly wire transmission means, to a rotary motion of the collector element 11 around the axis 17. Around the axis 17, there is provided a sleeve element 19 to which the collector element 11 is attached. Around the sleeve element 19, there is wound a cable wire 20, which is fastened, at least in one point, to the sleeve element 19. The first end of the wire 20 is attached to the lid element, to a first fastening point 21, and the other end of the wire is attached to the lid element, to a second fastening point 22. The first fastening point 21 and the second fastening point 22 of the wire are located, in the motional direction of the lid element 15, on opposite sides of the turning axis 17 of the collector element. This is only one alternative for turning the collector element 11 against the lid element 15. For a man skilled in the art, it is obvious that other turning arrangements can be used in connection with the collector element.

Rewrite the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 29, to read as follows:

In the embodiment according to figures 1 and 2, the arrangement according to the invention is attached to the separating wall 10,

which at the same time serves as the drive apparatus of the collector element. In connection with the electrolytic tank, preferably in the side walls 7, 8 of the tank, there are provided support and control members 9. By means of the support and control members 9, the separating element serving as the drive apparatus is supported, while the separating element is placed in the electrolytic tank 1, and controlled while it is being immersed in the electrolytic tank, in which case the created trajectory is mainly defined by the support and control members. Typically the employed support and control members 9 are grooves provided in the opposite walls 7, 8 of the tank, wherein the side edges of the separating element 10 are matched to fit. One embodiment of said separating wall is described in the ~~publication WO 99/11841~~ U.S. Patent 6,299,756.